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Horn End News

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This is a really interesting article from a Nursery Magazine that I wanted to share with you. I would love to hear your views. Fiona

A private nursery in Leeds has complained about the difficulty of meeting Ofsted requirements while complying with requests from parents, following an action taken against it by the inspection body for waking a sleeping child.

Staff at Sunbeams nursery, which has 62 children registered, said that they were responding to a request from one child's parents that the child should be distracted from having a late sleep in the afternoon. The parents said that napping in the afternoon meant that the child's sleep pattern was disturbed throughout the night.

Ofsted became involved after an anonymous complaint was made to it that staff at the nursery were not letting children sleep.

Sunbeams staff explained the child's particular circumstances and said that they were following parents' wishes. However, the nursery was given the action because ofsted said that nursery staff should prioritise the rights of the child rather than requests from parents. nursery manager Shelley Briggs told Nursery World, This is a common dilemma for nursery nurses. Parent partnership is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage and good practice, but Ofsted would not enter into a debate. "it's a grey area. We do not want to step on parents' toes, but Ofsted says it is about the rights of the child, and the child needed to sleep. We are going to send a letter out to parents informing them of what has happened and tell them that they will have to contact Ofsted if they want to discuss the issue further. The issue hasn't yet come up again with this particular child, but it will do."

An Ofsted spokesman said, 'While parents and carers may make a formal request for their child to be exempt from receiving the learning and development requirement of the EYFS, there is no provision for a child to be exempt from the welfare requirements. Providers must meet the welfare requirements at all times. In meeting the welfare requirements, a provider must have effective systems in place to ensure that they meet the individual needs of the child. This includes giving due consideration to the wishes of the child's parents. However, in the event of a conflict between the parent's wishes and the welfare requirements, the provider must put the safeguarding and best interests of the child as the priority.

'We would expect providers to discuss matters such as sleep patterns with parents and to accommodate parental wishes wherever possible, unless these conflict with welfare requirements.'

Early years advisor Dr Maria Robinson said, This is a delicate situation and I think that staff need to try to unpick the issue and find out why the child might be waking in the night. There is usually a reason why a child does not want to go to bed. A three-year-old probably still needs a short sleep in the afternoon.

This is a common issue and one we often find difficult to resolve. We pride ourselves at Horn End that we always put the children first but we also want to support parents who may be having difficulty getting their child to sleep at night. We hope this article helps you understand the dilemma we face.

Special points of interest

- ◆ Nursery Dilemma
- ◆ Staff Training
- ◆ Stay and play
- ◆ Let's imagine

Staff Training

At Horn End we aim to develop a team of well-informed and experienced professionals. We believe that it is important for our team to receive regular training which builds on existing knowledge and will give new techniques or approaches to childcare. Recently some of our team have received training on the following:-

- Babies and Mini Movers
- Persona Dolls
- Letters and Sounds
- Special Educational Needs
- First Aid

This helps to enhance the quality of care that children receive whilst at nursery. Please ask if you want to know more.

Let's imagine

Dressing up is a great fun for children and a wonderful way for them to harness their creativity and learn about different themes and subjects. All of our children have opportunities in a variety of ways to partake and use their imagination. Dressing up is just one of the ways children enjoy expressing themselves. We have regular themes and special days each month that we encourage everyone to join in with. In our Tommy Thumbs room we have recently introduced a themed story box that has a variety of props, dressing up clothes and a storybook. As you can see the photographs below demonstrate the wonder of imagination and expression.



Stay and Play

It was lovely to see so many parents taking the opportunity to stay and play. We plan to have a stay and play day every month. Our next stay and play will be **Monday 16h November** from 8.15-9.15am

If the dates or times are not convenient to you don't worry parents are welcome anytime. Just give me a call.

Fiona

Horn End Nursery Premises At
Lamascote Road, Stafford, Egg Lane, Hixon,
& Wharf Road, Rugeley.

We can now e-mail photos to you of your child at nursery. Please make sure we have your correct email address

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